

**INTERNATIONAL
MERCHANDISE IMPORTS**

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 28 OCT 2005

KEY FIGURES

	July 2005	August 2005	September 2005
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Food and live animals	441	514	502
Beverages and tobacco	75	97	102
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	147	169	188
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1 595	1 374	1 492
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	29	31	32
Chemicals and related products, nes	1 477	1 613	1 533
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1 500	1 646	1 588
Machinery and transport equipment	5 774	5 910	6 034
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1 743	2 027	2 026
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in the SITC	190	362	252
TOTAL	12 972	13 742	13 750

NOTES

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents statistics of Australia's merchandise imports classified according to the broadest level (1 digit sections) of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification. The data are compiled from information submitted by importers or their agents to the Australian Customs Service. More detailed merchandise imports data are available from AusStats or by contacting the National Information and Referral Service.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW CUSTOMS SYSTEM IN OCTOBER 2005

An article '*ABS Management of the Impact of the Implementation of the Imports Component of the New Customs System*' was released on the ABS website on 16 September 2005. To access this article select: *Themes* then *International Trade* then *Topics of Interest*.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

The October 2005 issue of this publication is expected to be released on 30 November 2005, and the November 2005 to March 2006 issues are expected to be released on 22 December 2005, 18 January 2006, 16 February 2006, 16 March 2006 and 20 April 2006.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more details see the ABS publication *International Merchandise Trade, Australia: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5489.0) which is accessible on the ABS web site.

Susan Linacre
Acting Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Ben Braysher on Canberra (02) 6252 6020.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
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